

REMARKS

1. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Examiner's comments, which have
5 greatly assisted Applicant in responding.

2. 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Examiner stated that Claims 1-10, 12-32 are rejected
under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Win et al, U.S. 6,161,139
10 (herein "Win") in view of Hudson, U.S. 6,055,637 (herein "Hudson").

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 1, 10, and 32

15 Claim 1 appears as follows:

1. (currently amended)A method for requesting approval for accessing a
resource in a system of resources, comprising the steps of:
creating a resource profile including at least one resource, wherein said
20 at least one resource has an owner;
a manager creating a job profile including at least one object
construction, said object construction representing a job function or functions;
said manager requesting of said resource owner approval for access
by said job profile to said at least one resource;
25 responsive to said resource owner granting approval, assigning said
approved job profile to said resource profile such that any user subsequently
assigned to said approved job profile by said manager automatically gains
approval and access to said at least one resource included in said resource
profile.

30 First, the Examiner stated that Win teaches a manager creating a job profile
including at least one object construction, said object construction representing a job
function or functions and cited (col. 4, lines 66, col. 5, lines 1-44, col. 12, lines 45-50,
65-67, col. 13, lines 9-15, and 59-60.)

35 By the citations, it is unclear to Applicant which element of Win is meant to be the
claimed invention's job profile.

Win's col. 4 line 66 though col. 5, lines 1-44 is as follows:

5 The system 2 enables administrators to implement access rules by defining Roles that Users play when working for an organization or doing business with an enterprise. A Role may reflect a relationship of a User to the organization (employee, customer, distributor, supplier), their department within an organization (sales, marketing, engineering) or any other affiliation or function (member of quality task force, hotline staff member) that defines their information needs and thus their access rights or privileges. Thus, 10 examples of Roles include Employee, Customer, Distributor, Supplier, Sales, Marketing, Engineering, and Hotline Staff.

15 Roles are defined by information identifying a name of a role and by a functional group in which the role resides. A functional group is often a department in which similar functions exist. Examples of functional groups are Marketing, Sales, Engineering, Human Resources, and Operations.

20 In some embodiments, the term User Type or Person Type refers to employees, directors, officers, contractors, customers, distributors, etc., and Role refers to a job function such as sales representative, financial analyst, etc.

25 Roles determine what resources a User can access. Further, each role may require a unique set of information that is available in resources. For example, a User who is an Employee in the Marketing department could access Price List and New Products Resources. Thus, system 2 enables the creation of resource profiles by assigning roles to resources, and user profiles by assigning roles to users to generate access rights. System 2 automatically links a user profile to the resources profiles that have been 30 assigned the same roles, so that deployment of new resources may occur rapidly.

Roles and resources are owned by Functional Groups within the organization.

35 The system 2 makes managing access simple because it is based on an additive data model. Assigning a role to a user or deleting a role from a user can add or delete access to all resources with that role. Similarly, adding a role to a resource or removing a role from a resource can give or take away

access to that resource from all users with that role. The system 2 allows administrators to make such changes in a simple manner, resulting in significant administration time savings.

- 5 From the citation hereinabove, Applicant infers that the Examiner is implying that Win's **user profile** reads on the claimed invention job profile. If Applicant is wrong, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner clarify what the Examiner intended.

- 10 Assuming Applicant's interpretation is correct, then Applicant asserts that Win's "enabling creation of ... user profiles by assigning roles to users..." does not teach the claimed invention's a manager creating a job profile including at least one object construction, the object construction representing a job function.

- 15 It should be appreciated that job profile at this stage of the approval process is not yet associated with a specific user. The manager creates the job profile and then negotiates with the resource owner for the job profile's approval to access the resource. Only after the job profile is assigned to the resource profile and only after a user is associated with a job profile can a user have access to a resource of the resource profile. Support can be found in the Specification, on page 8, lines 13-19, as follows (emphasis added):
- 20

- A manager may negotiate with one or more resource owners to get approval for accessing the resources within a built resource profile. After the resource owners have authorized their resources within a resource profile,**
- 25 **users that are associated with job profiles that are assigned to the resource profile are automatically given all the access rights that are specified in the resource profile. A resource profile preferably includes access rules pertaining to the resources included in the resource profile.**

- 30 Further, the other Win citations are as follows (emphasis added):

(col. 12, lines 45-50, 65-67)

- 35 Administration Application 114 is used by administrators to configure server components of the system, **to set up user and resource records, assign roles to users and resources and manage changes to the system.** The

Administration Application provides these services by reading and writing information in Registry Server 108.

5 Using Administration Application 114, an administrator may find, list, create, delete and modify user, resource and role records. Each role record contains a name string, unique identifier

(col. 13, lines 9-15, 59-60)

10 A user is authorized to access a resource if the user and resource share a role and the type of access is implicit in the role. Administration Application 114 can also carry out operations on a set of users, for example add or delete roles or change their account status. The operations can be performed on all users or sets of users, for example those with a specific
15 Role.

Creating profiles involves associating roles with resources and users, as well as associating user types with users.

20 Applicant submits that the citations hereinabove do not teach a manager creating a job profile. The citations above all involve a certain user. Again, the claimed invention is unambiguous that at this approval process stage; approval of the job profile has nothing to do with a particular user.

25 Further, is the Examiner stating that the role reads on the claimed invention's job profile?

This is improper, because first, it seems the Examiner is stating that the user profile is the claimed invention's job profile and later that it is Win's role that is the claimed
30 invention's job profile.

Further, the Examiner states that Win teaches assigning said job profile to said resource profile and cited col. 5, lines 1-33, which appear as follows (emphasis added):

35 rules by defining Roles that Users play when working for an organization or doing business with an enterprise. A Role may reflect a relationship of a User to the organization (employee, customer, distributor, supplier), their

department within an organization (sales, marketing, engineering) or any other affiliation or function (member of quality task force, hotline staff member) that defines their information needs and thus their access rights or privileges. Thus, examples of Roles include Employee, Customer, Distributor, Supplier, Sales, Marketing, Engineering, and Hotline Staff.

Roles are defined by information identifying a name of a role and by a functional group in which the role resides. A functional group is often a department in which similar functions exist. Examples of functional groups are Marketing, Sales, Engineering, Human Resources, and Operations.

In some embodiments, the term User Type or Person Type refers to employees, directors, officers, contractors, customers, distributors, etc., and Role refers to a job function such as sales representative, financial analyst, etc.

Roles determine what resources a User can access. Further, each role may require a unique set of information that is available in resources. For example, a User who is an Employee in the Marketing department could access Price List and New Products Resources. Thus, system 2 enables the creation of resource profiles by assigning roles to resources, and user profiles by assigning roles to users to generate access rights. System 2 automatically links a user profile to the resources profiles that have been assigned the same roles, so that deployment of new resources may occur rapidly.

Again, Applicant is confused as to which is supposed to be the claimed invention's job profile. Is it Win's role or Win's user profile?

Second, the Examiner then states that the claimed invention's such that any user subsequently assigned to said job profile by said manager automatically gains approval and access to said at least one resource included in said resource profile reads on Win's col. 4, line 66 through col. 5, lines 1-45.

But from the exact citation, it is clear that Win does not teach any user subsequently assigned to said job profile, meaning after said job profile is assigned to said resource profile. Win necessarily teaches assigning a role to a user first, then the system creates a user profile, then the system automatically links the user profile to the resource profile.

Hence, neither Win nor Hudson, alone or in combination, teaches all elements of the claimed invention. Therefore, Claims 1, 10, and 32 and the respective dependent claims are in condition for allowance. Simply put, Claims 1, 10, and 32 and the
5 respective dependent claims are allowable because they meet the conditions for allowance set forth by the applicable Patent Laws, Patent Office Rules, and Case Law. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

10 It should be appreciated that Applicant amended Claims 1, 10, and 32 to further clarify the invention.

Claims 20, 22, 26, and 29

15 Applicant has similarly amended such independent Claims in view of the rationale set forth hereinabove. Therefore, Applicant is of the opinion that Claims 20, 22, 26, and 29 and the respective dependent Claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

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3. It should be appreciated that Applicant has elected to amend the Claims solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals, 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (9/8/00). In making such cancellation and amendment, Applicant has not and does not in any
25 way narrow the scope of protection to which Applicant considers the invention herein to be entitled. Rather, Applicant reserves Applicant's right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

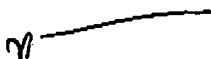
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CONCLUSION

5 Based on the foregoing, Applicant considers the present invention to be distinguished from the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections raised in the above referenced Office Action, such that a Notice of Allowance is forwarded to Applicant, and the present application is therefore allowed to issue as a United States patent. The Examiner is invited to call the Attorney/Agent at (650) 474-8400 to discuss the response.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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